

## **The restrictions due to the pandemic caused a 79.1% drop in marriages in the Basque Country in the second quarter of 2020**

### ***In April there were only 14 weddings and in May 87***

In the second quarter of 2020 the figure for marriages in the Basque Country stood at 455, which was a drop of 79.1% compared to the same quarter of the previous year, according to Eustat data.

In previous years there were more than 2,000 weddings in the second quarter; however, this year, due to the COVID-19 crisis, the number of weddings has dropped drastically, above all in April and May, when there were only 14 and 87 weddings, respectively.

The number of marriages decreased in all three provinces, given that in Álava there were only 51 weddings (-80.5%), in Gipuzkoa 157 (-80.1%) and in Bizkaia 225 (-78.6%). On the other hand, 22 couples fixed their residency outside the Basque Country.

Of the total number of marriages, 23 were between people of the same sex (8 between men and 15 between women) and the remaining 432 were heterosexual marriages.

During the second quarter of 2020, practically all weddings were civil, given that there were only 9 canonical weddings. The percentage of civil weddings was 7.7 points higher than in the same period of 2019.

Of the 455 marriages in the second quarter of 2019, 428 men and 445 women resident in the Basque Country married. For 340 spouses (79.4%) this was their first marriage, whilst 6 widowers and 82 divorcees remarried. The percentage of first weddings for women was similar to that for men: the number of single women who married stood at 346 (77.8%), 6 widows and 93 divorcees.

### ***The percentage of foreign nationals entering into marriage doubled***

With respect to the distribution according to the age of the couple, 92.3% of husbands and 87.9% of wives were older than 30. In the same period of 2019, this percentage was 90.8% for men and 83.8% for women.

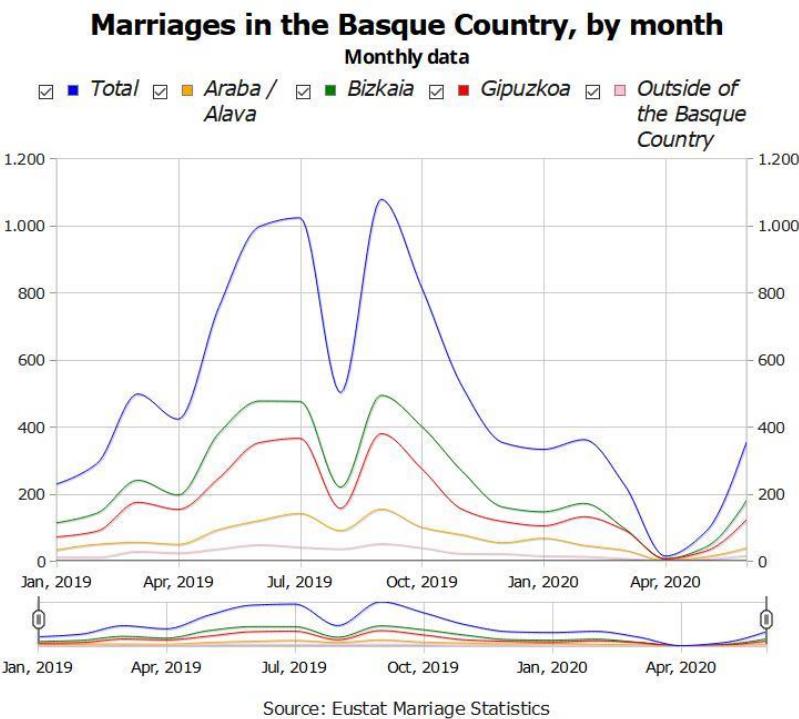
In the months of April, May and June 2020, 19.2% of recently married men and 25.2% of recently married women were foreign nationals. With regards to the same quarter of the previous year, the percentage of men increased by 10.2 percentage points and that of women by 12.9 points.

**Marriages of the Basque Country by territory of residence, sex, previous marital status and type of ceremony (1)**

	Current quarter II/2020		Previous quarter (I/2020)		Same quarter the previous year (II/2019)	
	Nº	%	Nº	%	Nº	%
<b>MARRIAGES</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>2.173</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Araba/Álava	51	11,2	144	15,7	262	12,1
Bizkaia	225	49,5	413	45,0	1.052	48,4
Gipuzkoa	157	34,5	326	35,5	751	34,6
Outside of the Basque Country	22	4,8	35	3,8	108	5,0
<u>Homosexuals</u>	23	5,1	30	3,3	59	2,7
Between men	8	1,8	11	1,2	32	1,5
Between women	15	3,3	19	2,1	27	1,2
<u>Heterosexuals</u>	432	94,9	888	96,7	2.114	97,3
Canonical	9	2,0	24	2,6	258	11,9
Civil	423	93,0	864	94,1	1.856	85,4
<b>HUSBANDS</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>2.067</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Single	340	79,4	685	78,7	1.744	84,4
Widower	6	1,4	7	0,8	19	0,9
Divorced	82	19,2	178	20,5	304	14,7
< 30 year	33	7,7	85	9,8	190	9,2
30 - 39 year	148	34,6	326	37,5	996	48,2
≥ 40 year	247	57,7	459	52,8	881	42,6
Spanish nationality	346	80,8	694	79,8	1.880	91,0
Foreign nationality	82	19,2	176	20,2	187	9,0
<b>WIVES</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>2.052</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Single	346	77,8	724	81,3	1.750	85,3
Widower	6	1,3	4	0,4	10	0,5
Divorced	93	20,9	162	18,2	292	14,2
< 30 year	54	12,1	151	17,4	320	15,5
30 - 39 year	174	39,1	358	41,1	1.033	50,0
≥ 40 year	217	48,8	381	43,8	699	33,8
Spanish nationality	333	74,8	626	72,0	1.798	87,0
Foreign nationality	112	25,2	264	30,3	254	12,3

(1) For the current quarter and the previous data are provisional

Source: Eustat. Marriage statistics



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